

MARVEL

5

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WITH ALVARO LÓPEZ

HISTORY OF THE **MARVEL** UNIVERSE



HISTORY OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE

At the end of existence, Franklin Richards asked Galactus to tell him the story of their universe as they wait for its heat death. Galactus began with the first stirrings of life and left off with the discovery that the parallel Earth that the Avengers and the Fantastic Four had once found themselves on was created by none other than Franklin. Now, the story continues...

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THAT'S BE, FRANKLIN
RICHARDS AND
GALACTUS, THE
WORLD BUILDER
AND THE WORLD
DESTRUCTOR.

SO POWERFUL
HAD YOU BECOME
THAT THE CELESTIALS
TOOK DIRECT
NOTICE.

THEY WOULDN'T
SAY, BUT I ALWAYS
SUSPECTED THAT WAS
OUT OF JEALOUSY. THEY
DEMANDED I DESTROY
MY LITTLE POCKET
WORLD.

POCKET-ART
BABIES.

I TAUGHT THEM
A LITTLE HUMAN
PERSPECTIVE, AND
THEY BACKED OFF
ONCE I BROUGHT
EVERYBODY HOME.


WHETHER
ENVIOUS OR NOT,
THEY KNEW THE TRUTH:
YOUR POWER TO CREATE
REALITIES WAS
BOUNDLESS.

AND,
TO BE FAIR,
SPORADIC.

WHAT'S
WRONG?

RETURNING TO
CONTINUE.






IN THE ABSENCE OF
THE AVENGERS AND THE
FANTASTIC FOUR, A NEW
TEAM HAD EMERGED.

THE THUNDERBOLTS
GAINED THE ADMIRATION
OF A WORLD UNWARE
THAT THEY WERE, IN FACT,
VILLAINS POSING
AS HEROES.

LED BY BARCH ZEHO POSING AS
CITIZEN V, SEVERAL OF THEM
ENDED UP REJECTING. OVER TIME,
THEIR OPPORTUNISTIC WAYS IN
ATTEMPTS TO REDEEM THEMSELVES.



EARTH'S MUTANT POPULATION HAD EXPLODED, TO THE NORTH OF MADAGASCAR, THE ISLAND OF GENOSHA BECAME HOME TO OVER SIXTEEN MILLION MUNDANE SUPERHUMANS. CALLESTRA NOVA, CHARLES XAVIER'S TWIN SISTER, USED ROGUE SENTINELS TO ERADICATE THEM IN AN ACT OF UNREPENTANT GENOCIDE.

IN THE AFTERMATH, XAVIER REFUSED TO KEEP HIS STUDENTS FROM ANY LONGER AND TOOK PROACTIVE PUBLIC STEPS TO IMPROVE HUMAN-MUTANT RELATIONS.

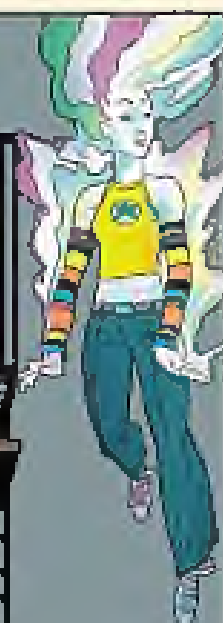
WHILE CYCLOPS AND BAMA PROST BECAME CO-HEADMASTERS OF THE XAVIER INSTITUTE, XAVIER AND MAGNETO BEGAN REBUILDING GENOSHA TOGETHER.

IN AMERICA, TWO LONG-SETTLED
HEROES FOUND NEW LIFE. ONE, **ROBERT
REYNOLDS**—A ACTIVE YEARS BEFORE
THANKS TO AN ATTEMPT TO RECREATE
THE SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA—AWOKES
FROM AN AMNESIAC STATE AND RECLAIMED
HIS IDENTITY AS **THE SENTRY**.

HIS PHOTOSYNTHETIC POWERS
WERE VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED, BUT
WERE CHECKED ONLY BY THE MENTAL
BLOCKS OF HIS VARIOUS
PSYCHOLOGICAL ILLNESSES.

THE OTHER, **JESSICA JONES**, HAD BEEN
EXPOSED TO RADIOACTIVE CHEMICALS AS A
TEENAGER, GAINING POWERS INCLUDING SUPER-
HUMAN STRENGTH AND DURABILITY FOR A SHORT
TIME. SHE OPERATED UNDER THE CODENAME
JEWEL UNTIL SHE WAS TRAUMATIZED BY AN
ENCOUNTER WITH THE MIND-CONTROLLING **PURPLE
EARL**, LEAVING JEWEL BEHIND. PRIVATE DETECTIVE
JONES OPENED **ALIAS INVESTIGATIONS**.

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A
WEALTHY ENTREPRENEUR,
X-FORCE EVOLVED INTO THE
X-STATUE AND QUICKLY
BECAME MEDIA SUPERSTARS.



MEANWHILE, ANOTHER TEAM OF YOUNG
HEROES WAS FORCED DOWN A FAR DIFFERENT PATH
ONCE THEY DISCOVERED THEIR PARENTS WERE THE
CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION **THE PRIDE**, FLEEING
THEIR HERITAGE TO CHASE THEIR OWN DREAMS.
THEY BECAME **RUNAWAYS**.

DESIEGED BY RELAY ATTACKS, THEIR HEADQUARTERS DEMOLISHED AND THEIR RANKS WINNED, THE AVENGERS WERE FINALLY DESTROYED BY A MYSTERY OPPONENT.

ULTIMATELY THEIR Foe STOOD REVEALED AS ONE OF THEIR OWN--WANDA MAXIMOFF, THE SCARLET WITCH, WHO HAD BEEN POWER GLOWLY INSANE BY THE DISCOVERY THAT HER BELOVED TWIN INFANTS WERE NO MORE THAN EMPTY CONSTRUCTS HER OWN SUBCONSCIOUS HAD CREATED.

AS A RESULT OF THE SCARLET WITCH'S ATTACKS, THE AVENGERS DISBANDED FOR A TIME, REUNITING IN THE FUTURE AS A NEW, LOOSER-KNIT TEAM.

THEY WOULD EVENTUALLY REBUILD THEIR ORGANIZATION--BUT ONLY AFTER A CRISIS THAT WOULD PIT THEM AGAINST ONE ANOTHER WITH A FEROCITY THEY HAD NEVER BEFORE EXPERIENCED.



EVEN UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYES OF MAGNETO AND CHARLES XAVIER, WANDA'S POWERS CONTINUED TO BECOME MORE VOLATILE.

QUICKSILVER, FEARFUL THAT HIS SISTER MIGHT BE EXECUTED FOR HER CRIMES, MANIPULATED HER INTO TRANSFORMING GLOBAL REALITY INTO ONE IN WHICH HUMANS WERE RULED BY MUTANTS, RETOoled BY MAGNETO'S ROYAL HOUSE OF M.

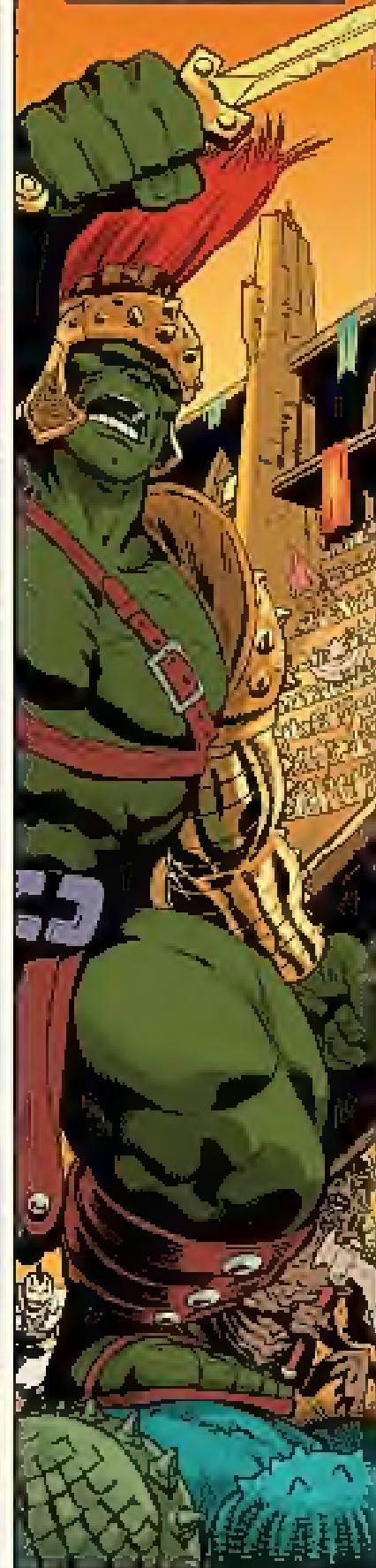
FINDING THIS EXISTENCE NO BETTER THAN THE ONE SHE'D ABANDONED, THE SCARLET WITCH REVERTED REALITY WITH ONE ALTERATION: THE NEAR-ERADICATION OF MUTANT POWERS WORLDWIDE, REDUCING THE MUTANT POPULATION FROM MILLIONS TO MERE HUNDREDS.

THE ILLUMINATI, HAVING DECIDED THAT AN INCREASINGLY RAGEFUL HULK WAS TOO DANGEROUS TO REMAIN ON EARTH, EXILED THE BEAST INTO SPACE.

THOUGH THEY HAD INTENDED FOR HIM TO ARRIVE ON A PEACEFUL WORLD, A FREAK ACCIDENT CAUSED THE HULK TO INSTEAD CRASH ONTO THE GLADIATOR PLANET SAKAR.

A CONFRONTATION WITH JAMES BARNES, THE WINTER SOLDIER, GAVE CAPTAIN AMERICA THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECOVER HIS LOST MEMORIES AND TRUE PERSONALITY USING THE COSMIC CUBE.

OVERCOME WITH REMORSE, BARNES ATTEMPTED TO PAY FOR PAST SINS BY BECOMING A DEEP-COVER OPERATIVE FOR NICK FURY.



A BATTLE BETWEEN THE NEW
WARRIORS AND NITRO ACCIDENTALLY
RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF HUNDREDS
OF CIVILIAN BYSTANDERS, GIVING
AMERICA'S POLITICIANS THE PUBLIC
SUPPORT REQUIRED TO PASS THE
SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT.

EARTH'S HEROES WERE SHARPLY DIVIDED
BY NEW LAWS REQUIRING THEM TO BE
MONITORED AND TRAINED AND TO
SURRENDER THEIR REAL NAMES TO THE
GOVERNMENT. IRON MAN FELT THE ACT
WAS REASONABLE AND INEVITABLE.



[illegible][illegible]

ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT BE APPOINTED
ON A FULL-TIME BASIS, HE WOULD BE
PAID FOR HIS SERVICES AS A
CONSULTANT. HE WOULD BE
RECEIVING A SALARY OF \$10,000
PER MONTH.

NO MORE NEED FOR A
BRINGING THE BULL TO
THE KICK AND MAINTAINING
THESE ARE THE BEST OF THE

THE BUREAU HAS HAD
PARTNERED WITH THE U.S. MARSHALS
SERVICE TO THE U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
AND THE U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
IN THE PAST YEAR.

TELEPHONALLY MADE WITH
 4-5-69' W/ PPT DEPTING.
 WILLIAMS TELING ME
 FURTHER ON DURING THE EASTN
 2-5-69' PPT 2-5-69' 2-5-69'
 WILLIAMS TELING ME
 MADE IN NEW YORK

HALL OF RECORDS
RECEIVED
ROBERT HALL REQUEST
BY ADP AND HEARD
OF CAPTAIN AMERICA
AND THE JUNGLE, HIS
FRIENDS & F.A.B.

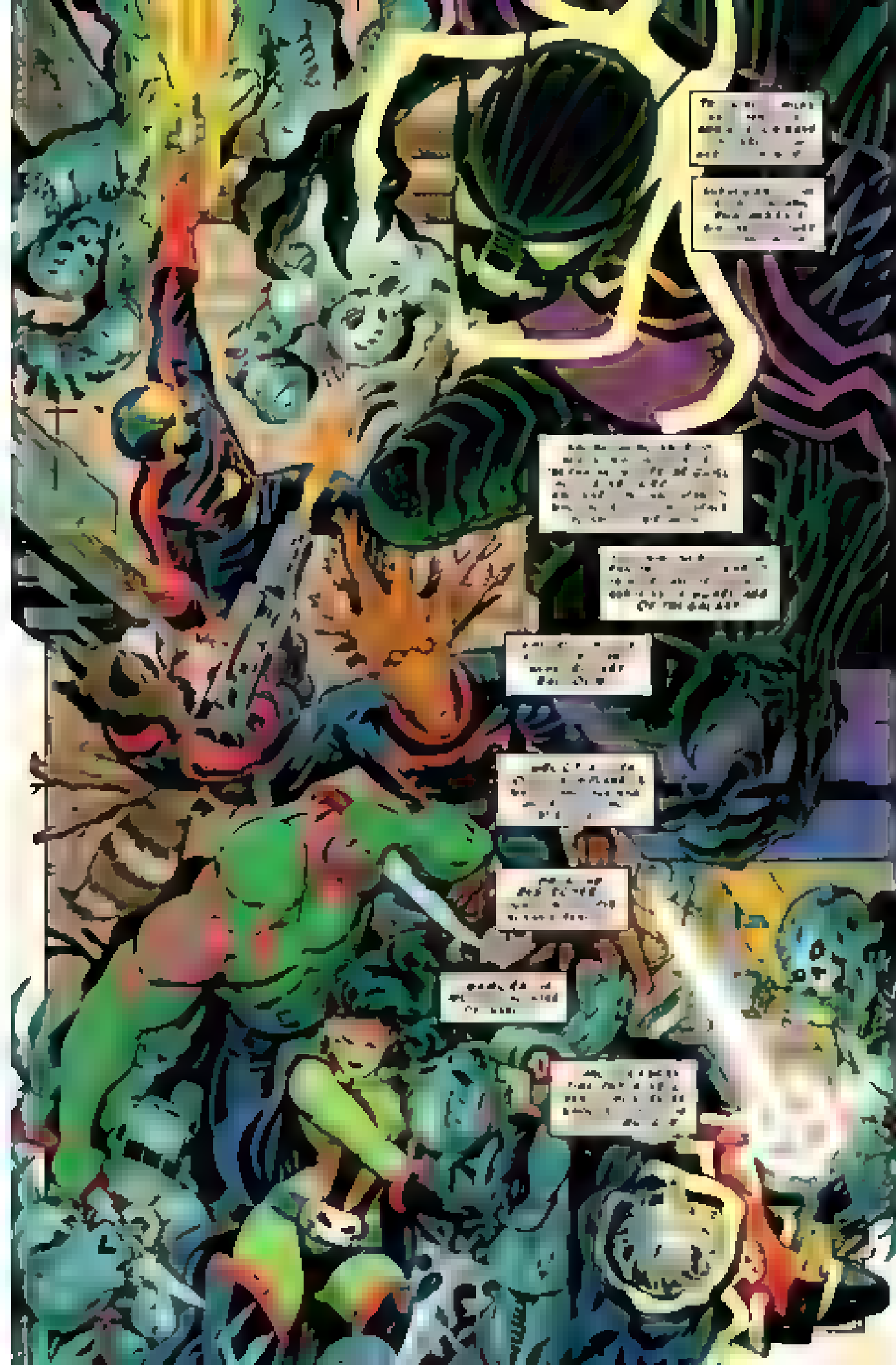
ON SAKKAR, THE HULK EVENTUALLY
APPEARED TO THE PLANETARY
BEINGS AND TOOK A WIFE. ONLY TO
DIE. THE MEN WOULD DO MUCH OF
SPACE BEFORE HE HAD ARRIVED
IN ACCORD WITH A FINAL ALPHAN

HULK INSTANTLY
BLAMED THE ILLUMINATI
FOR HIS DEATH
AND TO AFTERMATH
AND SWORE REVENGE

ALONG WITH HIS TEAM
OF SUPER-POWERED
GUARDIANS THE
WARRIOR HE
RETURNED TO EARTH

THERE HE REJECTED
AVENGERS TOWER, DEFEATED
AND SUBJUGATED IRON MAN
DR. DOCTOR, THE
FANTASTIC FOUR AND
OTHERS AND CLAIMED
THE NEW LEVEL

ON SAKKAR THE HULK THUS WAS
TOWARD HIS. THE WARRIOR A TALL
BEARING THE BLOOD OF DEATH. HE
WAS FROM MAN AND THE IRON. ONE OF
THE FIRST TO BE REBORN TO DEFEAT
HIM. DEFEAT HIM A COMBAT



THE SKRULLS THEIR CIVILIZATION BLIATTSQAD AND IN NEED OF A NEW HOMEWORLD SET THEIR SIGHTS ON EARTH!

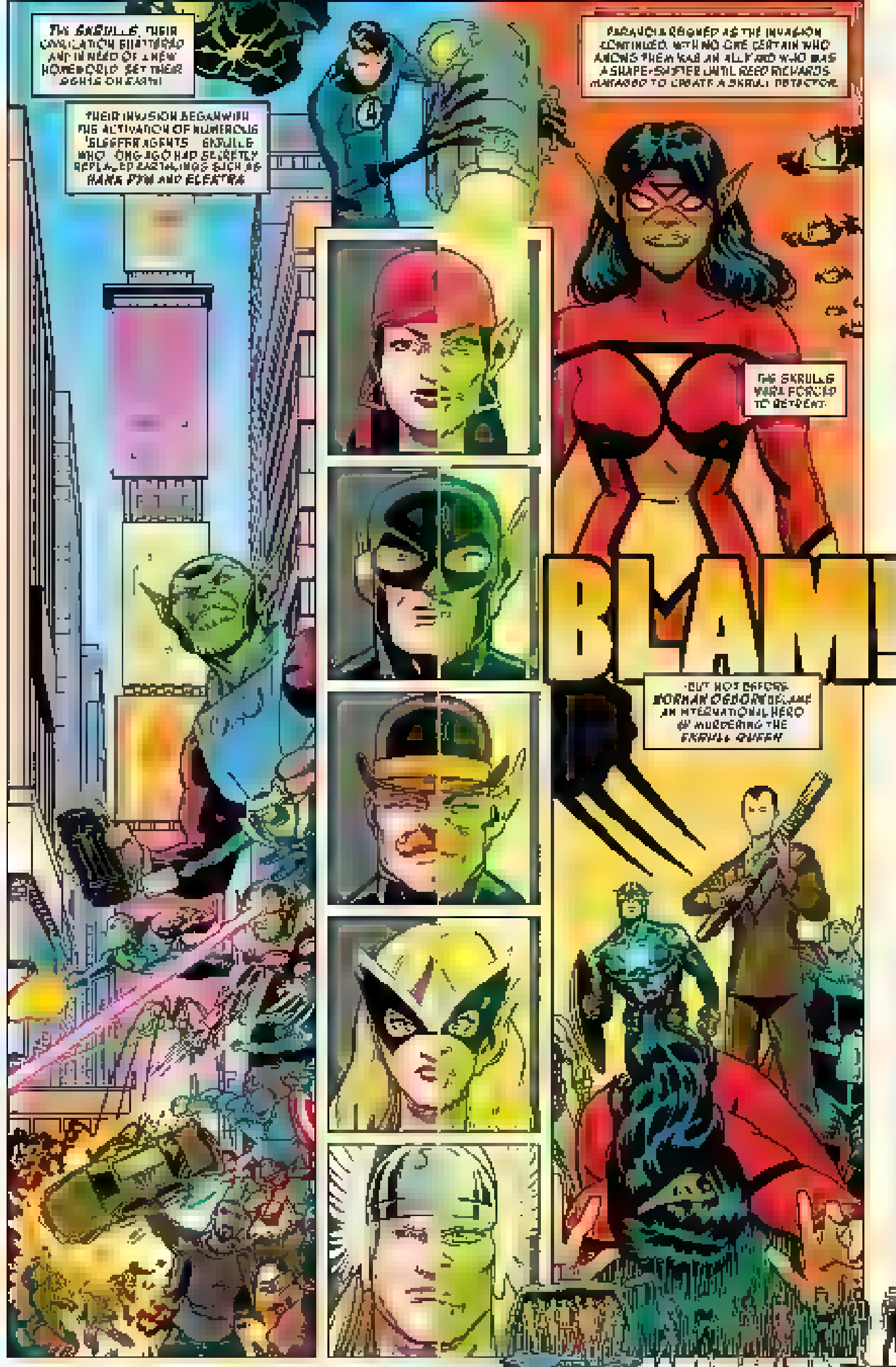
THEIR INVASION BEGAN WITH THE ACTIVATION OF NUMEROUS 'SLEEFER' AGENTS SKRULLS WHO LONG AGO HAD SECRETLY REPLACED EARTHINGS SUCH AS HANA PYM AND ELECTRA


PARACHUTED DOWN AS THE INVASION CONTINUED. WITH NO ONE CERTAIN WHO KNEW THEM WAS AN ALLY AND WHO WAS A SHAPE-SHIFTER UNTIL REED RICHARDS HUNTED TO CREATE A SKRULL DETECTOR

THE SKRULLS WERE FORCED TO RETREAT

BLAME!

BUT NOT BEFORE NORMAN OSBORN BECAME AN INTERNATIONAL HERO BY MURDERING THE SKRULL QUEEN



A full-page comic book illustration. Iron Patriot, in his red and blue armor, stands atop a large, cheering crowd. He holds a torch aloft in his right hand and a sword in his left. The crowd below is diverse in age and appearance, all looking up at him with expressions of awe and admiration. The background is a bright, hazy orange, suggesting a sunset or a large fire. The overall tone is one of triumph and public endorsement.

OSBORN EVEN
SAID HE' QUICKLY
TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE
OF HIS NEW PRESTIGE

HE ACCEPTED THE LEADERSHIP OF
H.A.M.E.R.'S INTERNATIONAL
ESPIONAGE AGENCY. HE BRIEFLY
DIPPED HIS HANDS INTO
HIMSELF WITH A VARIETY OF CRIMINAL
ACTS AND HAPPY TO BE
GOVERNMENTS TO HIS WILL

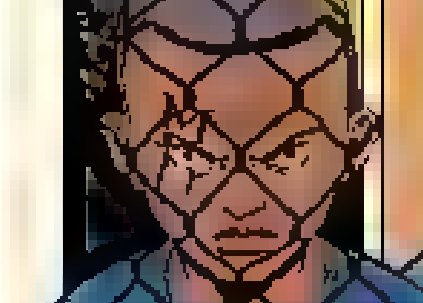
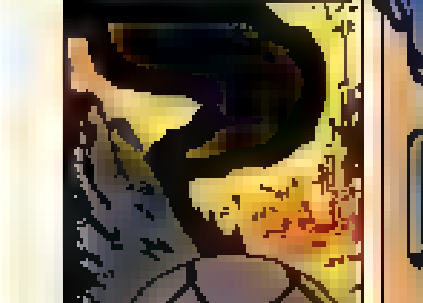
AS THE IRON PATRIOT HE
FOUNDED HIS OWN AVENGERS
AND HER TEARDOWNERS AND
DROVE SETTING HIMSELF
THOSE PEOPLE OFFERED TO
H.A.M.E.R.'S WERE BRANDED
AS FUGITIVES FROM THE LAW

IN THE MEANTIME, THE ACTUAL 3-MAN EMPLOYED ON A QUEST TO SAVE THE
LARGEST ALIEN CHILD BORN FOLLOWING THE MALAR EXTERMINATION OF THEIR
RACE. A "INFANT MESSIAH" WHO WOULD BE NAMED HOPE SUMMERS



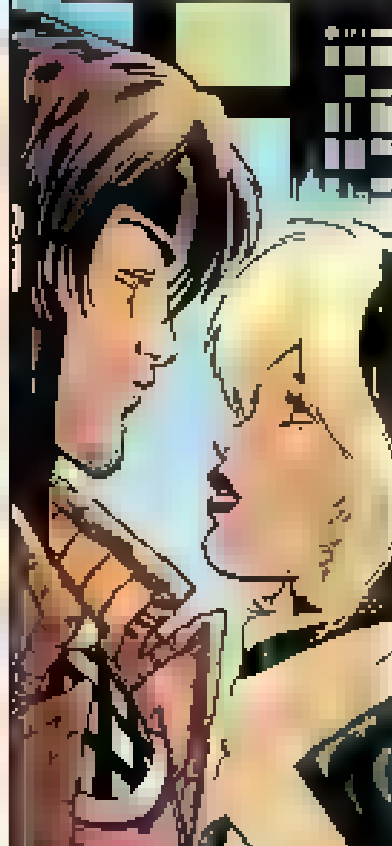
THEIR RESCUE EFFORT
FITTED THEM AGAINST THE
PURIFIED RELIGIOUS
ZEALOTS DEVOTED TO THE
ANNIHILATION OF MUTANTS
A SERIES OF BATTLE &
DESIGNATED PREY FOR E-

AND ONE-TIME ALLY
BRIAN, A REFUGEE FROM
AN ALTERNATE FUTURE IN
WHICH MUTANTS WERE
POUNDED AND INCARCERATED

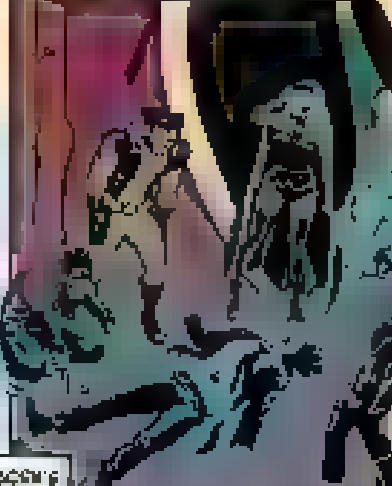


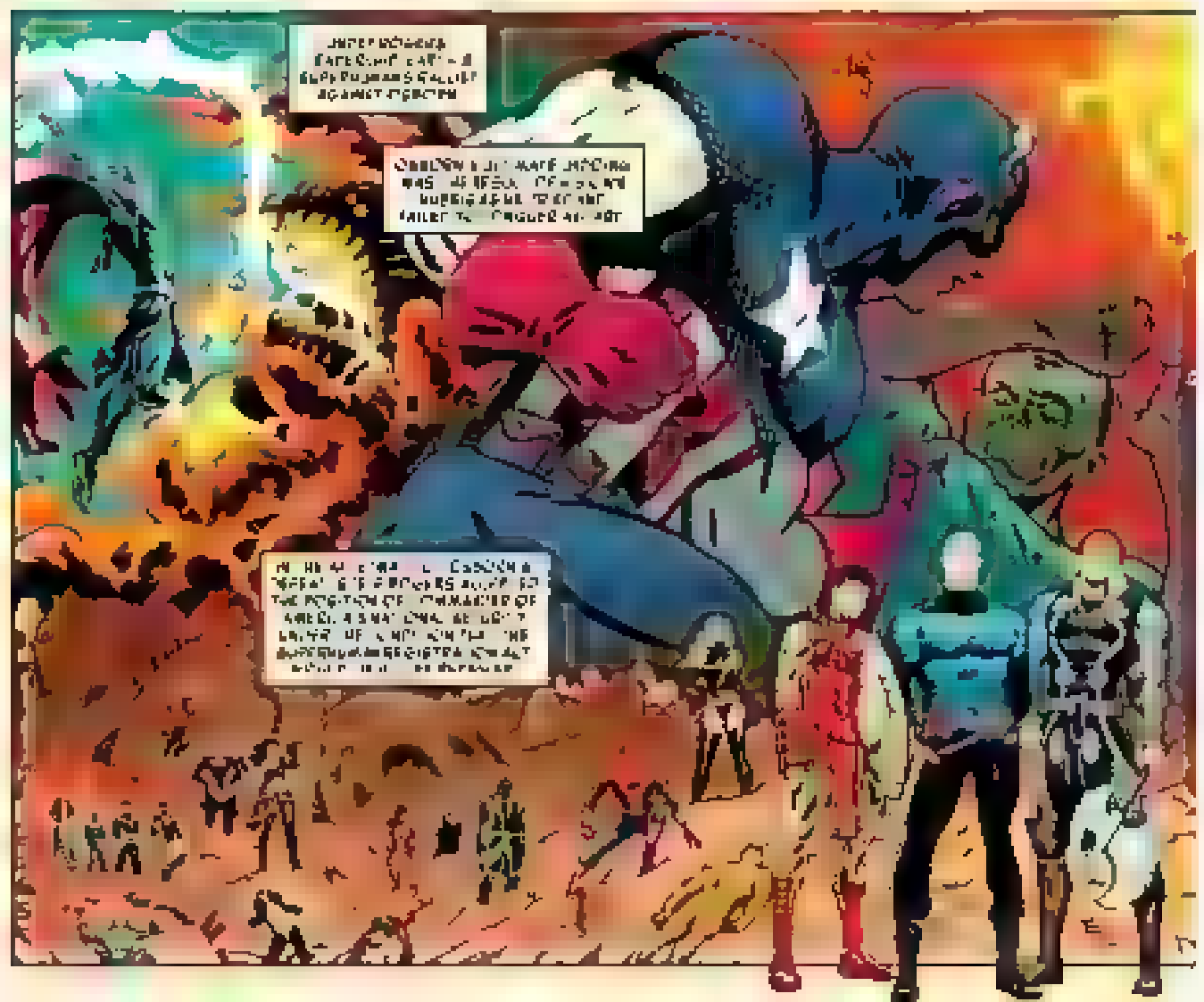
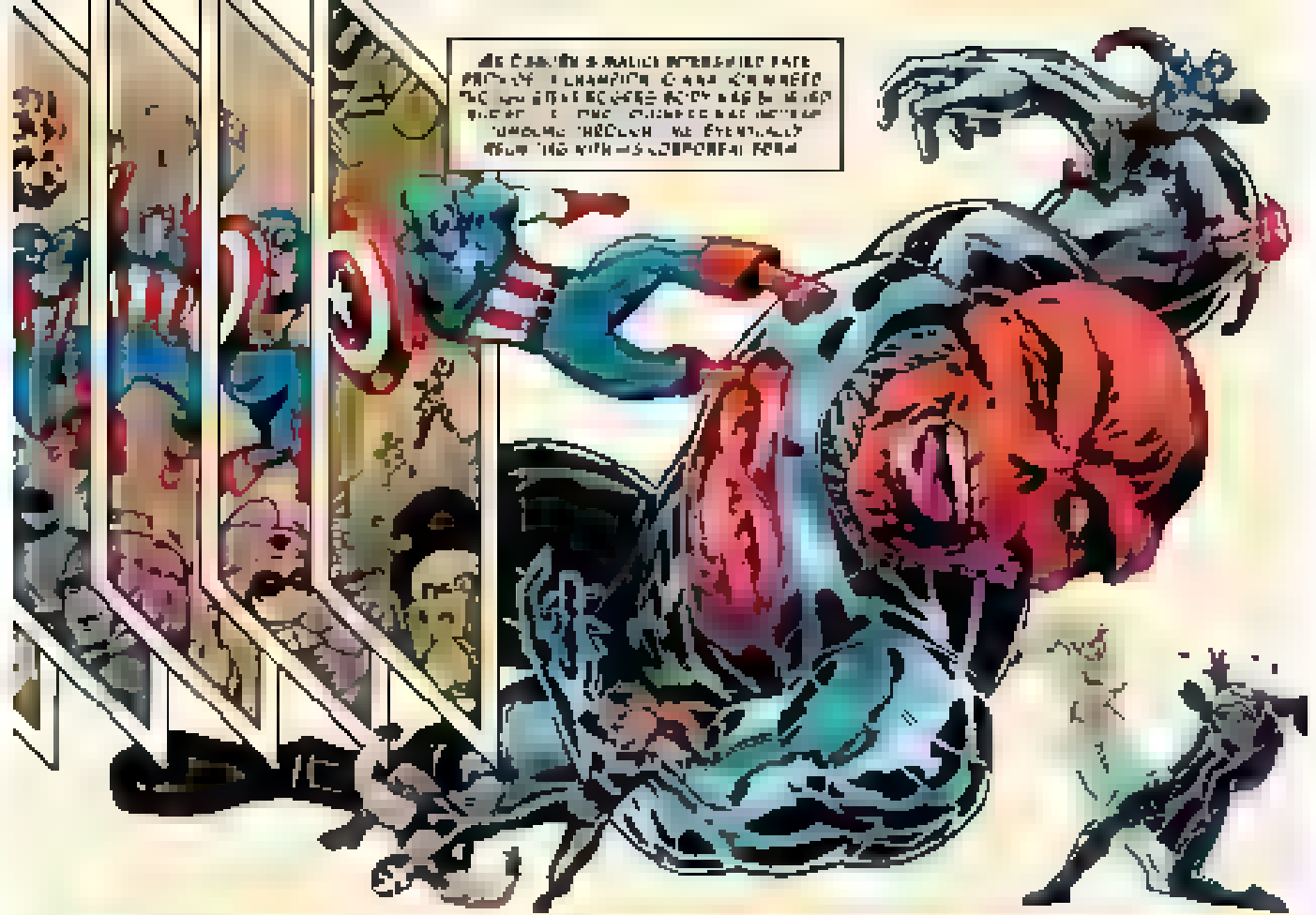
INSPIRATION. INVOLVED BY GROOMING
MADNESS, THE 3 MEN RELAYED TO
TO THEIR OWN ALTERNATE ISLAND
NATION OF UTOPIA OFF THE COAST OF
CALIFORNIA, WHERE THEY WOULD BE
TEMPORARILY SAFE FROM PERSECUTION

WORKS. EXAMINERS ON THE
X-MEN DURING THIS PERIOD WERE
EARTHLY MANIPULATORS OF
KINETIC ENERGY AND DISCOVERED
THESE TITAN ABILITIES. THEY
WERE THE AND MEMBERS



DISNEY WROTE. BELIEVED
HOPE'S EXISTENCE WOULD
LEAD TO HIS OWN HYPER-POWER
TIMELINE AND ACCIDENTALLY
SHOT PROFESSOR XAVIER IN AN
ATTEMPT TO ENJOY THE





WITH OSBORN GONE, COMMANDER ROGERS
OFFERED IN A POST-REGISTRATION HEROIC
AGE, ASSEMBLING A NEW TEAM OF AVENGERS
AND SERVING AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF A
SUSPECTED, FOR A SHORT TIME BEFORE
RECLAIMING HIS CAPTAIN AMERICA IDENTITY

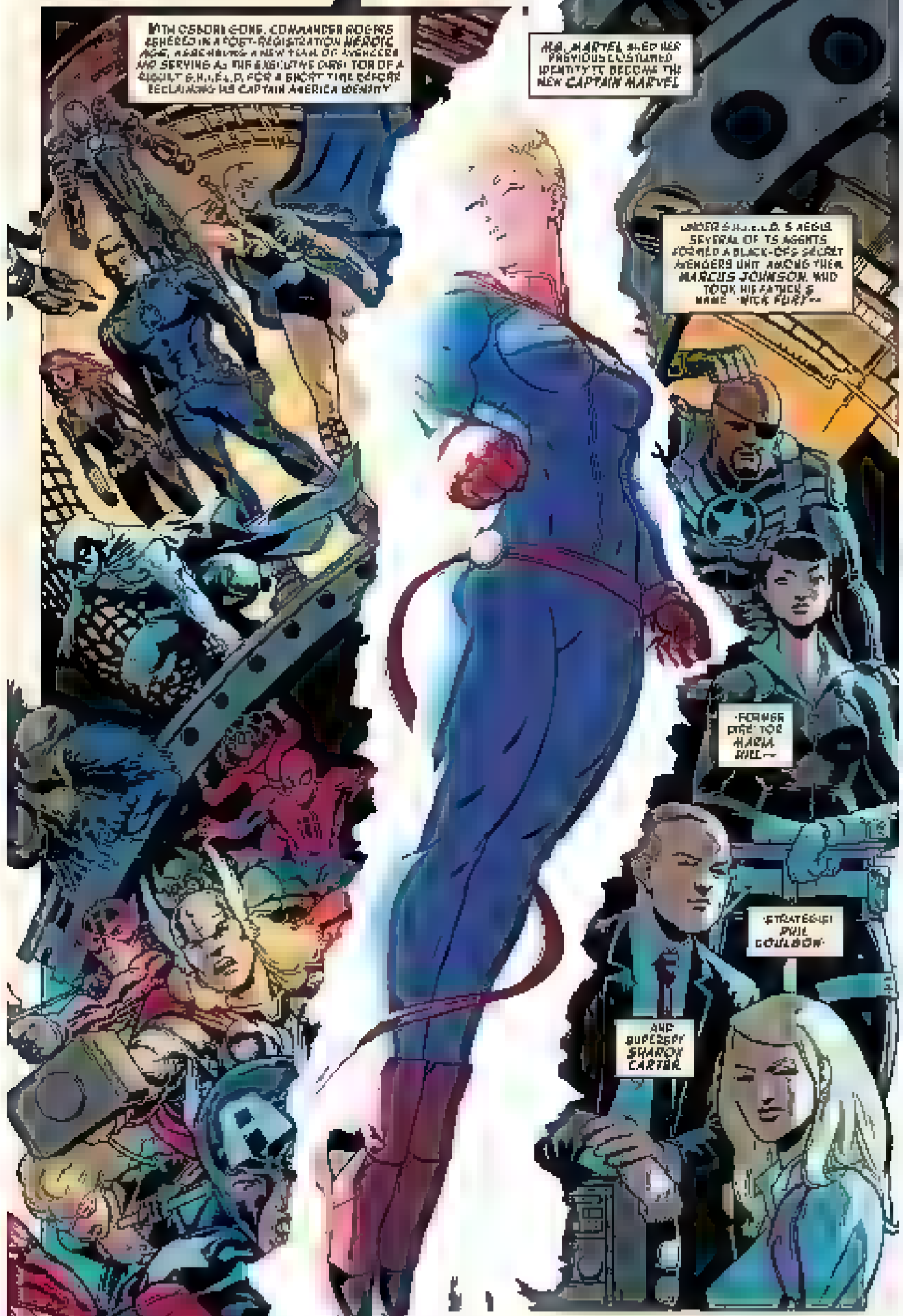
MARVEL SLED HER
PREVIOUS CUSTOMER
IDENTITY TO BECOME THE
NEW CAPTAIN MARVEL

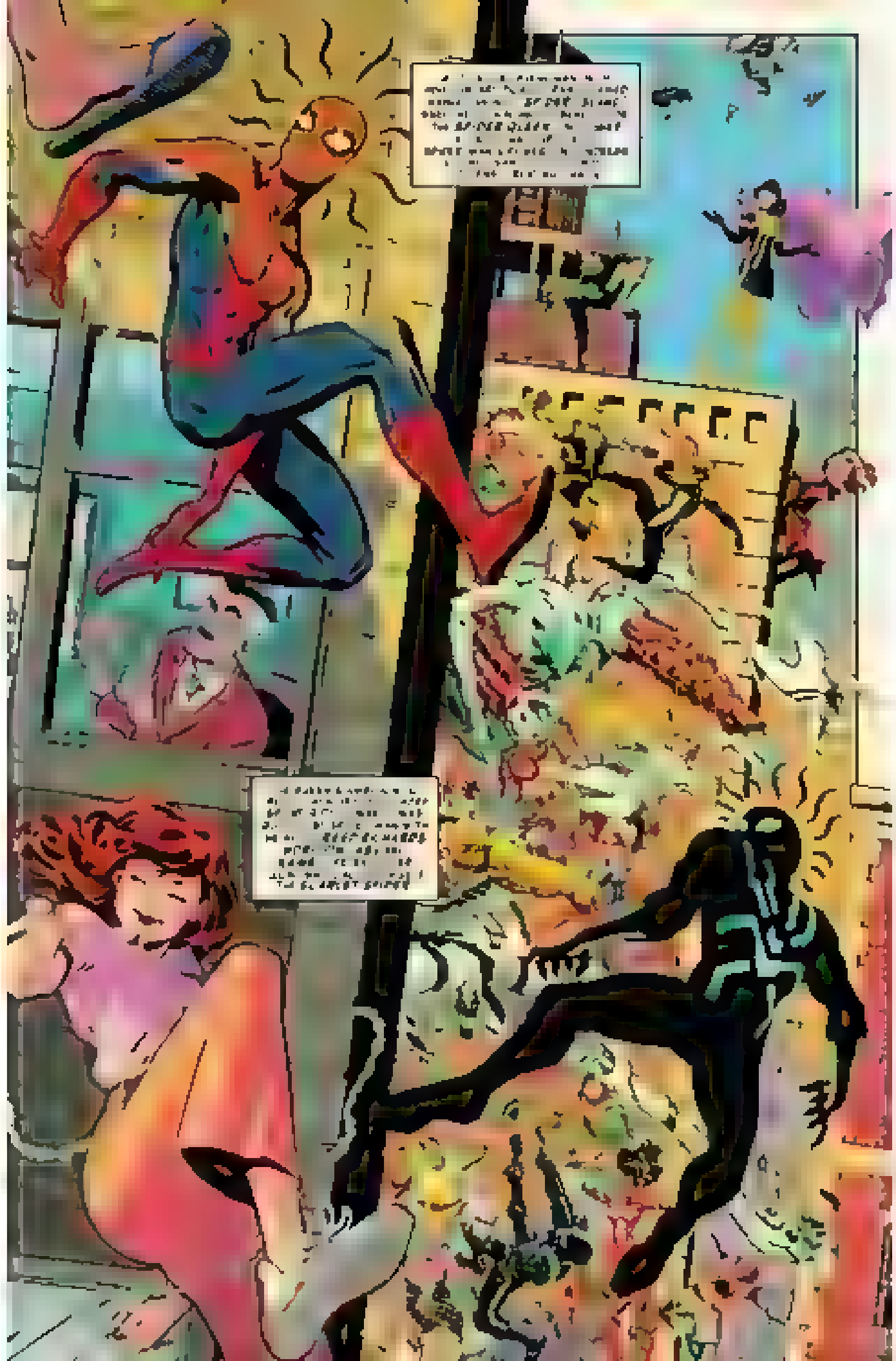
UNDER S.H.I.E.L.D.'S AEGIS,
SEVERAL OF ITS AGENTS
FORMED A BLACK-OPS SECRET
WARRIORS UNIT, AMONG THEM
MARCOUS JOHNSON, WHO
TOOK HIS FATHER'S
NAME "WICK PURY"

FORMER
DIR. FOR
MARIA
HILL

STRATEGIST
PHIL
COULSON

AND
SUPERHERO
SHARON
CARTER





SPIDER-MAN: I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!

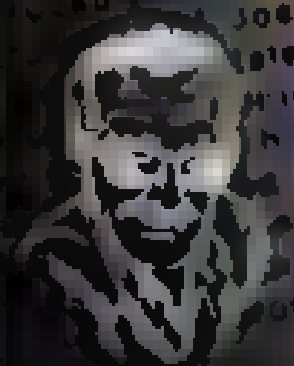
SPIDER-MAN: I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
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I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!
I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A SPIDER-MAN!



STAN'S SOAPBOX

For months I've been wanting to talk with you about this subject, but it always gets shoved aside by something more urgent. Well, this time I'm gonna say it no matter what! This time I'm out to give the great guys and gals who produce these mag's a small portion of the glowing tribute they so richly deserve. Having spent almost all my life in comics, I can testify to never having known a more ethical or honorable creative group. I've seen artists sacrifice long hours to help other artists perfect their work—writers giving their time unstintingly to polish another author's script. In this a most highly competitive field you'll rarely hear one artist disparage another's work, but instead the more talented the man, the more likely he is to provide advice, support, and encouragement to those who need it most. So here's to the eternally talented crew I work with and to the equally gifted gang who toil for our competitors. Your work is demanding your hours are long, your profession a lonely one. But you provide pleasure and enchantment to untold millions—and, though you may never meet them personally, they know you respect you—they've taken you into their lives—and into their hearts. For you and I and all of us help them weave their most wondrous dreams.

Faceliner
S. L.



STAN LEE

draw of Greaske—claiming that even Irving Berlin could do a better job if they were willing to the FANTASTIC FOUR. We'd swear they're fancy streeters. But the odd thing is this: WE think Herb's one of the greatest additions to our stately staff since Raquel Welch. No Norman Mailer working here. Cam down!—and have been coming over...

DAFED...
ing end of the
it's 6...
MUL... 124...
mar...
the...
IRON MAN...
ramp...
this...
SUB MARINE...
and only...
them defeat...
SGT FURT...
the...
only the...
B...
CAPE SA...
S...
camp in...
CHAMRE...
is dark...
Marvel...
to...
MARVE...
F...
Marine...
Strang...
RAW...
MILL...
MAD...
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TO...
mu...
Me...
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...

OPPOSITE HER UNFAMILIAR
WORLD LIVING, THEY UNDERSTOOD
SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL MUSICIANS
BEFORE BELIEVING TO THEIR OWN
FOR THE REAFFIRMATION OF THEIR
FUTURE WIFE

AROUND THAT TIME THE MENAGERIE
EMERGED FROM A TIME PAUSE & BECAME
ONE OF THE PLACES TO SAVE EARTH FROM
DESTRUCTION BY THE EVER-EVIL
MILORD A TREMENDOUS BUNGLE OF
MAJESTY/ENCE CREATED BY HANK PIM

To Be Continued!

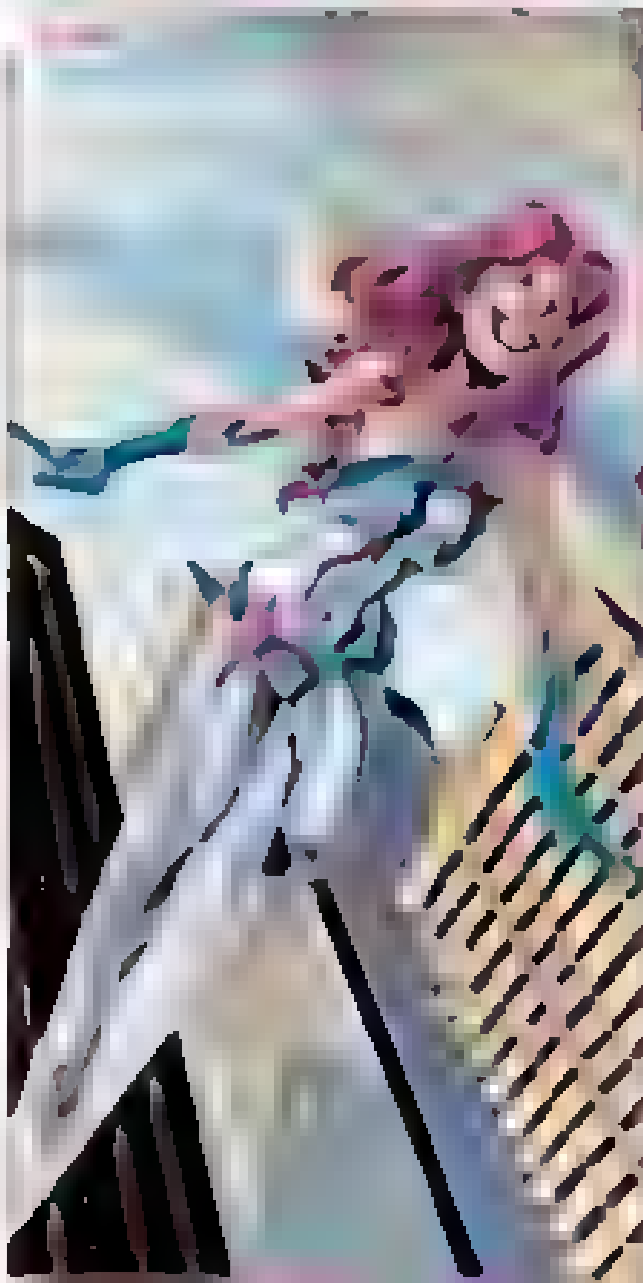
NEXT





material fell from the truck, and exposure to it saved Campbell's life. After months in a coma, Campbell was adopted by the Jones family. She later discovered the material granted her flight and superhuman strength, which she used as the super hero Jewel. During a confrontation with the Purple Man, Jewel became mentally enthralled by his pheromone powers and was his personal plaything for months. When the Purple Man sent Jewel to attack the Avengers, her lack of attacking her idol the Scarlet Witch (Wanda Maximoff)

she suffered, Jones became cynical and brusque, guilt being Jewel and opened a private investigation firm called Atlas Investigations. A later confrontation with the Purple Man activated psychic blocks established by the X-Men, enabling Jones to defeat her tormentor. *Jessica Jones* first appeared in *Atlas #1* (2001) and her origin was gradually told through *Atlas* #20 (2004).



as a friend and used her powers to gain popularity.

Eventually obtaining her own monthly ongoing publication, she often helps her friends to achieve their missions.

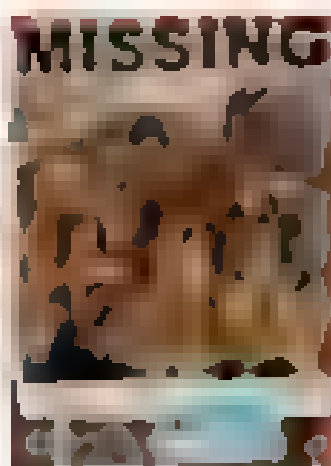


However, that all their parents were secretly criminals of the highest order, who had suffered through unusual experiences of their families, oblivious to what their parents did during the war.

During one such mission, they got the best of them and led by Alex Wilder, they secretly brought a young woman to the Gibborim.

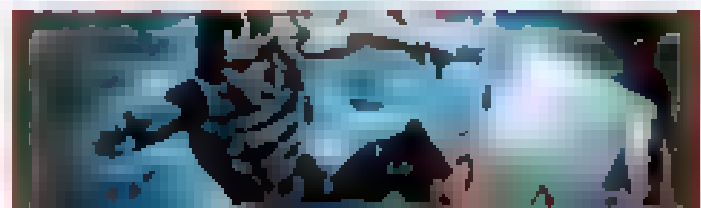
They served who intended to conquer Earth. Horrified by the truth, the teens ran away from home and vowed to stop their parents. Over time, the teens discovered various abilities. Nico Minoru learned she was a sorcerer, Molly Hayes' mutant strength manifested, Karolina Dean discovered she was a super-powered being.

Parents often brought them into contact with various superhumans.





A photograph showing a large, dense crowd of people gathered outdoors. The scene is somewhat blurry and has a reddish tint. In the foreground, several individuals are visible, some wearing hats or headgear. The background shows more people and what appears to be a large, open space, possibly a park or a public square. The overall atmosphere suggests a significant public gathering or protest.





After the Hulk / Bruce Banner inadvertently killed twenty-six people during a brawl, the so-called "Humarati" of Mister Fantastic, Iron Man (Tony Stark), Doctor Stephen Strange and the Inhuman King Black Bolt devised a plan to exile him into space after availing S.H. E.I.L.D. in destroying a rogue satellite called Goddard. Hulk's ship was seized by the Humarati, who told the Hulk they were sending him to a planet devoid of intelligent life where he would no longer pose a threat to Earth. Unexpectedly, the ship was pulled into a wormhole, ultimately crashing on the violent world of Sakaar. There, Hulk was enslaved and forced to fight as a gladiator in the Great Arena by the planet's tyrannical ruler, the Red King (Angma-Asan). Earning the Green Scar, the Hulk bonded with several combatants—becoming the Warbound—eventually freed the Red King's slaves (1) with killing the Hulk, the Red King is deadly forces upon Sakaar, murdering innocents



destroyed his doomsday weapon, the Hulk re-



When the youthful New Warriors staged a poorly planned to escape super-powered criminals in Stamford, Connecticut, over 500 civilians were

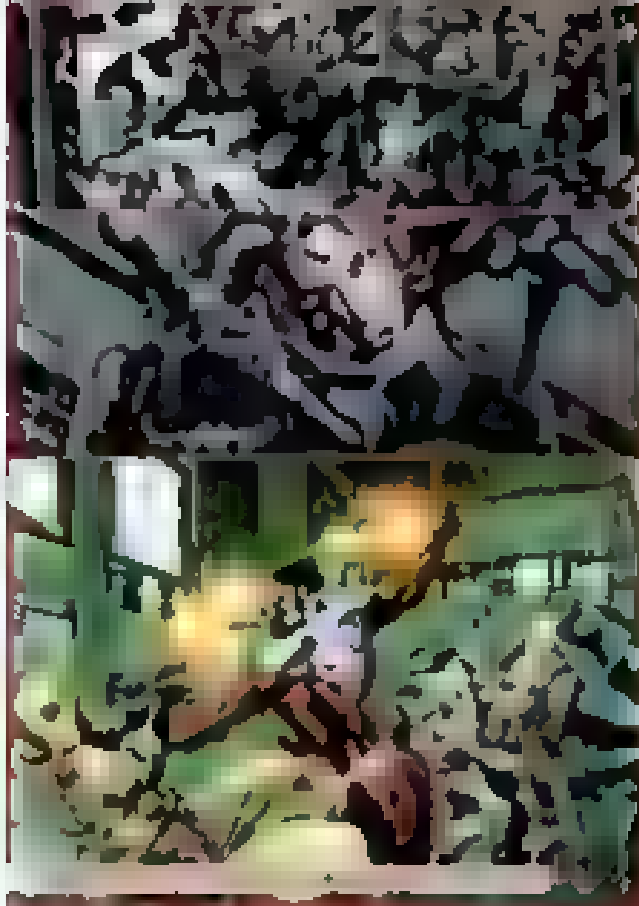
the other amount of collateral damage caused by superhuman battles, the U.S. Senate passed the Superhuman Registration Act (SHRA), requiring superhumans to register and reveal their identities to the government and then undergo training. A rift quickly formed in the super hero community between those who supported and those who were against the SHRA. Led by Iron Man (Tony Stark), the pro-SHRA forces worked with S.H.A.S.E.U.D. to apprehend those who refused to register. While anti-SHRA forces led by Captain America (Steve Rogers) continued their heroic activities, a secret Allied

Negative Zone, which ultimately resulted in a massive confrontation in New York City. The SHRA and surrendered, ending hostilities. The superhuman civil war was recorded in



Registration Act, Captain America (Steve Rogers) was shot by a sniper as he was led into court to stand trial for his crimes.

brainwashing of Doctor Faustus, Rogers' love Sharon Carter carried out a plan created by the Red Skull. Johann the fiends in the stomach brace during the chaos created by the sniper's shot. Not realizing what she had done, Carter held Rogers' hand as he died.



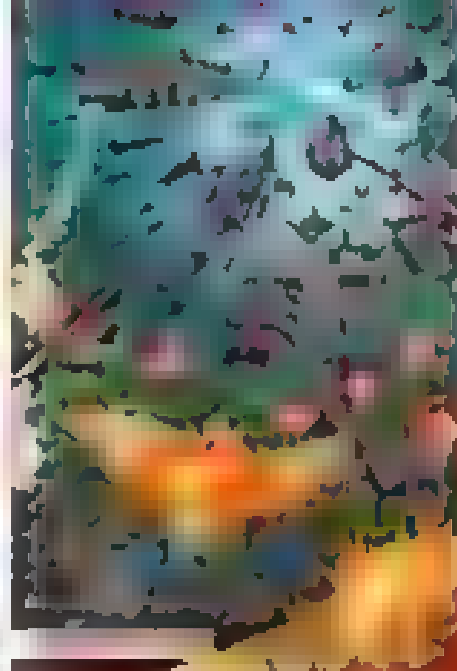
Disappointed by the long delay after America's return, Rogers' former best friend Bucky, the one-legged "Lucky" who had lost a leg in World War I, decided to take matters into his own hands. He teamed up with the Skrull, who were secretly working with the Red Skull, to kill Rogers. Rogers' other close allies, the Falcon (Sam Wilson) and Warren Carter, are searching for the Skull. In the process of their search, they all learned of Carter's brainwashing and unwitting complicity in Rogers' death. The quest to locate the Red Skull and discover the truth behind Captain America's death began in earnest in *Captain America #26* (2007).

Years later, the day after he was captured by the so-called "Masters of Evil" (Bruce Banner, who had been turned into the Hulk by the gamma rays he absorbed while fighting the Red Skull), Bucky was taken to a secret facility where he was kept in a state of suspended animation. He was later rescued by the Hulk, who was seeking revenge on the former warrior for sending him there and for the death of his wife, Calan, who was killed when the ship the Hulk used to escape the island exploded. The Hulk, who was also seeking revenge on the Hulk, orchestrated by one of his henchmen, who was not happy with the Hulk's plans to bring peace to the planet.

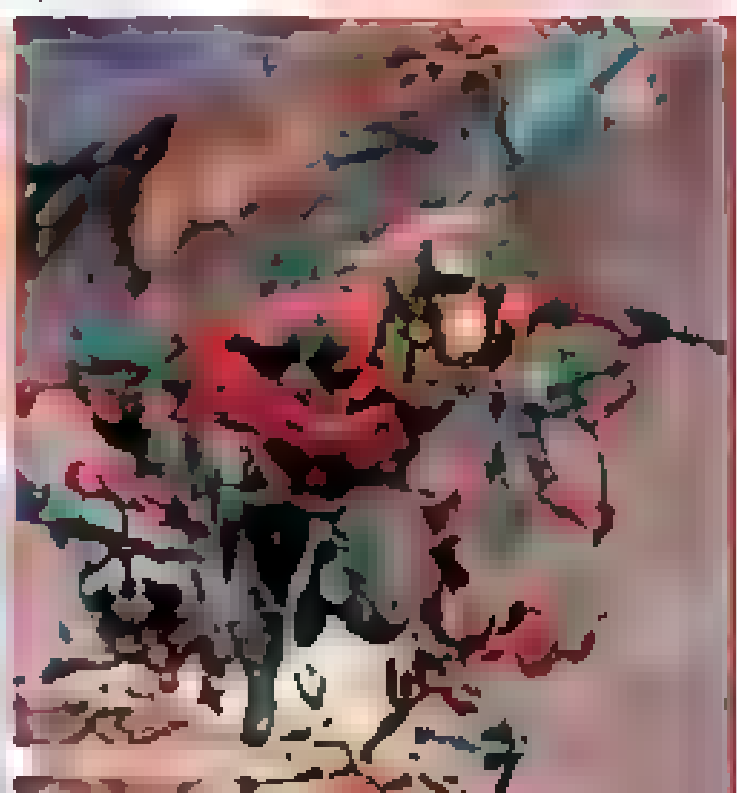
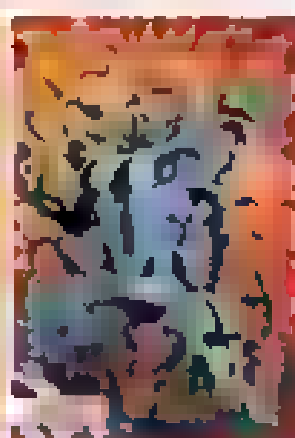
Both actually an alien Skrull disguised as him), Mister Fantastic, Iron Man (Tony Stark), and the Hulk. The Hulk, who was seeking revenge on the Hulk, orchestrated by one of his henchmen, who was not happy with the Hulk's plans to bring peace to the planet. Both actually an alien Skrull disguised as him), Mister Fantastic, Iron Man (Tony Stark), and the Hulk. The Hulk, who was seeking revenge on the Hulk, orchestrated by one of his henchmen, who was not happy with the Hulk's plans to bring peace to the planet.



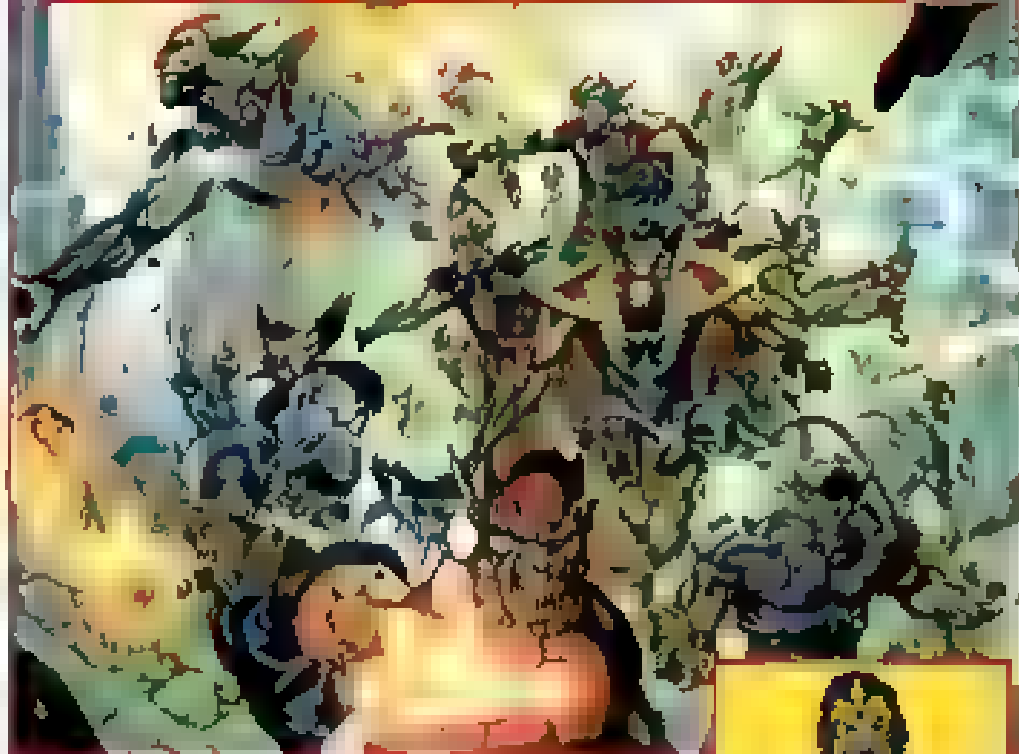
Although he initially left the role of the brainwashed warrior to the Hulk, Bucky eventually returned to the role of the brainwashed warrior. He was later rescued by the Hulk, who was seeking revenge on the former warrior for sending him there and for the death of his wife, Calan, who was killed when the ship the Hulk used to escape the island exploded. The Hulk, who was also seeking revenge on the Hulk, orchestrated by one of his henchmen, who was not happy with the Hulk's plans to bring peace to the planet.

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conquered much of the Eastern Empire. In 476, the
Western Roman Empire fell to the barbarians. The
fall of the empire was the result of a combination of
factors, including internal decay, economic problems,
and the pressure of invading barbarian tribes. The
fall of the empire was a major event in the history of
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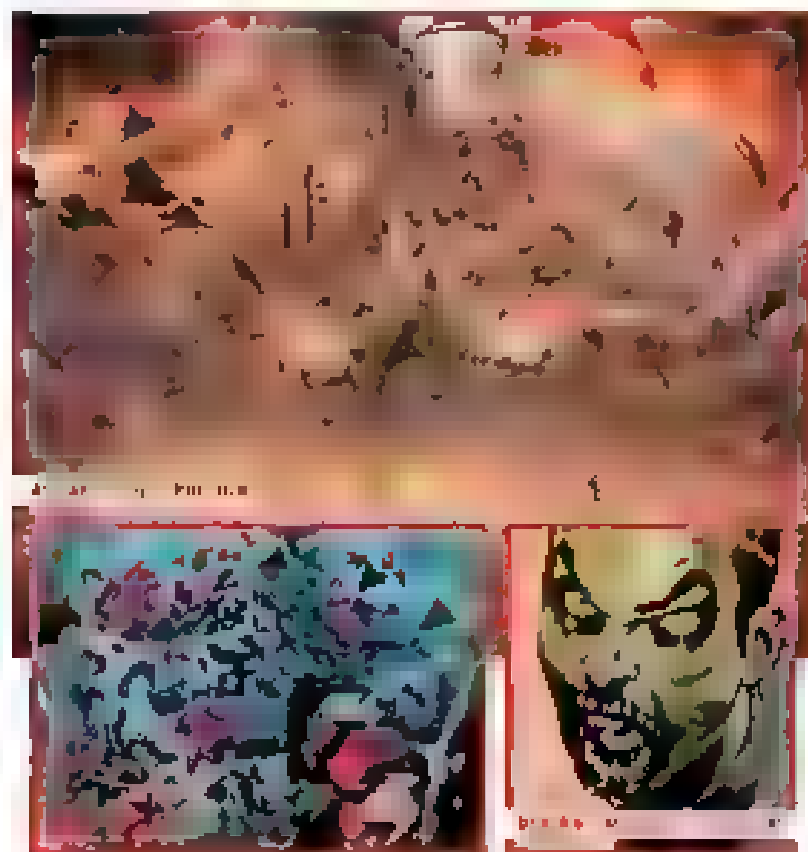
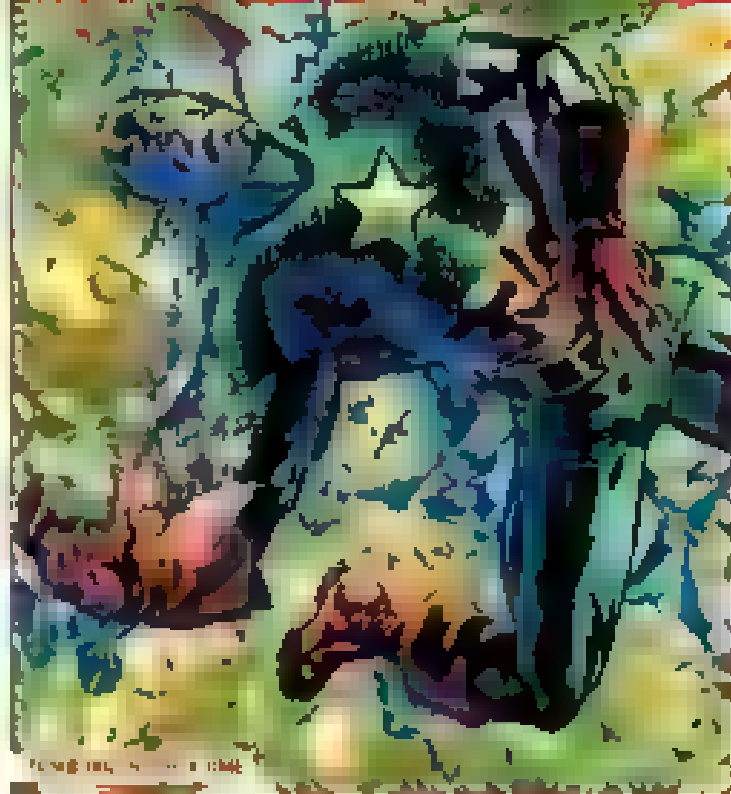
After the planet-dwelling Gaiajars destroyed their homeworld of A-lia, a culty religious faction of the shape-shifting Skrull aliens led by Queen Veranke began a long term secret invasion of Earth. After abducting and replacing various key humans with undetectable Skrull impostors—including Henry Pym, Hank Pym's Extra-Natural Agents Dum Dum Dugan and Valentina de Fontaine of the peacekeeping S.H.I.E.L.D. organization and Avengers leader Edwin Jarvis—Queen Veranke herself joined the Avengers disguised as Spider Woman (Jessica Drew). After some time spent manipulating events to weaken Earth's defenses, the Skrulls disabled every piece of technology created by Tony Stark (Iron Man), including that used by S.H.I.E.L.D. and Earth's extraterrestrial espionage agency S.W.O.R.D., trapped the Avengers in the Savage Land and unleashed a horde of super-powered Super Skrull war lords. Eventually, Mister Fantastic invented a device to detect the hidden Skrulls, allowing Earth's superheroes to marshal their forces and confront Veranke's army in Central Park. Following a massive battle, the Skrulls were defeated, and Thunderbolt Leech, the secretly criminal insane Norman Osborn, publicly executed Veranke. The human impostors were located, Tony Stark was blamed for Earth's vulnerability and Norman Osborn became a hero in the eyes of the public. *Secret Invasion #1-6* (2008-2009)



Hailed as a hero after killing the invading Skrull Queen Veranke, secretly corrupt Norman Osborn was given control of the world's superhuman infrastructure. He consolidated powers at his influence of morally ambiguous allies—Doctor Doom (Victor Von Doom), Namor (McKenzie), Loki (Laufeyson), the Hood (Parker Robbins) and Emma Frost—into the global secret ruling council. Osborn dissolved S.H.I.E.L.D. and replaced it with H.A.M.M.E.R., a terrorist organization molded in his own image. Formed his own team of Avengers, largely composed of unrepentant super villains disguised as established heroes and led by him as the armored Iron Patriot, and created a private team of X-Men, which he used to address mutant issues that could impact him. Osborn abusively used his new power to pursue his own vendettas and settle grudges all the while publicly persecuting legitimate heroes and secretly enabling crime. Norman Osborn's dark reign began in *Secret Invasion #6* (2009), and much of it played out in *Secret Invasion: Dark Reign #1* (2009) and *Dark Avengers #1-10* (2009-2010); Osborn's team of X-Men first appeared in *Uncanny X-Men #513* (2009).



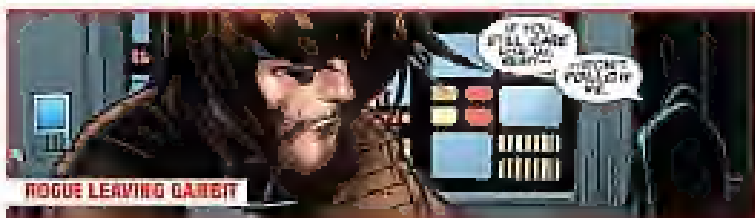
While being captured by (for the Faustus) and the Red Skull (Johann Schmidt), Sharon Carter broke Faustus' brainwashing and observed experiments that made her believe that: somehow Steve Rogers was alive. When Carter was rescued by the Falcon (Sam Wilson), the Black Widow (Natasha Romanoff) and Captain America (James "Bucky" Barnes), Alexander Lukin—the body housing the Red Skull's consciousness—was killed; however, the Skull's mind was uploaded to a robotic body similar to one used by his occasional ally Armin Zola. Sometime later, Carter found the gun she was forced to use to shoot Rogers and learned it did not fire traditional bullets, confirming for her that Rogers was not dead. In actuality, the "bullets" knocked Rogers out of sync with time, causing him to relive key moments of his life. Rogers was then transported back to the present as the Red Skull could copy Rogers' revived body. While the Skull's forces battled Rogers' gathered friends on the National Mall, Rogers and the Skull battled within their now-shared mindscape. Cap forced the Skull out, sending him back to his Zola-made body, which was eventually destroyed by Rogers and the superhuman friends he rallied to his side. Later, after witnessing Barnes in action as Captain America, Rogers told him to continue in the role. Sharon Carter's revival and the transfer of the Red Skull's mind occurred with little plot in *Captain America #42* (2008). Sharon Carter said "I told Steve Rogers was not dead" in *Captain America #50* (2008). The Red Skull's arrest and the return of Steve Rogers was recorded in *Captain America Returns #1-6* (2008-2009). Rogers and Bucky is confirmed as Captain America in *Captain America: How Now Would the Shield? #1* (2010).



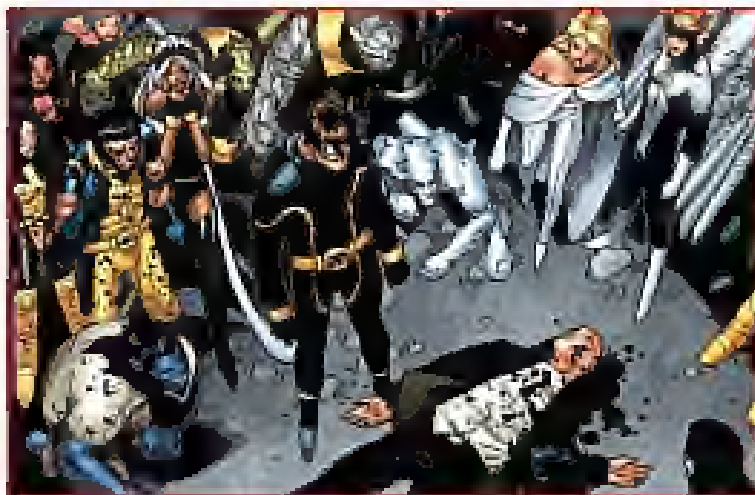
Maddened with power and manipulated by LBA "Lawless" Norman Osborn attempted the destruction of Asgard, with his new Iron Lords and Doctor Octopus, and which Osborn also came to see as a threat. Denied permission to attack Asgard by the U.S. president, Osborn orchestrated a battle between the Asgardians and the Avengers in Chicago as a ploy. He led his private team of Avengers (largely staffed by villains in disguise) and H.A.M.M.E.R. in a full-scale assault on Asgard. Before long, the battle was joined by the true Avengers and other superhumans, now led by the returned Steve Rogers who temporarily borrowed the Captain America role from James "Bucky" Barnes. During the conflict, Osborn's ally, the schizophrenic Sentry, reverted to his evil host persona and turned on both friend and foe alike, ravaging Asgard before Thor Odinson apparently drove him back to his normal state. Osborn was defeated and imprisoned by the Avengers. Osborn's secret identity was laid bare for the world to see when he was painted as the former villainous Green Goblin persona, was released following these events. Steve Rogers was appointed as commander of the U.S. Superhuman Team and the Superhuman Registration Act was revised. *Super #1-4* (2010).



Reunited Iron-Man-led Thor Odinson, Iron Man (Tony Stark) and Steve Rogers (formerly Captain America) were forced to confront the tension and animosity between them—much of it caused by the Superhuman Registration Act and the superhuman civil war—when the destruction of Asgard resulted in the jangling of multiple realms and dimensions. Forced to work together to prevent the ascension of the Asgardian goddess of Death, the trio learned to set aside their differences to bring together an army to defeat Hela. *Avengers Prime #1-5* (2010) tells the tale of these three men taking the first steps toward trusting and caring for each other again.



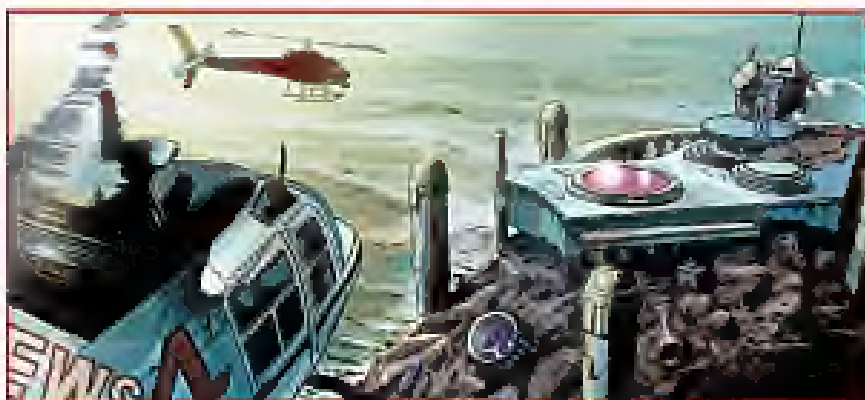
ROGUE LEAVING GAMBIT



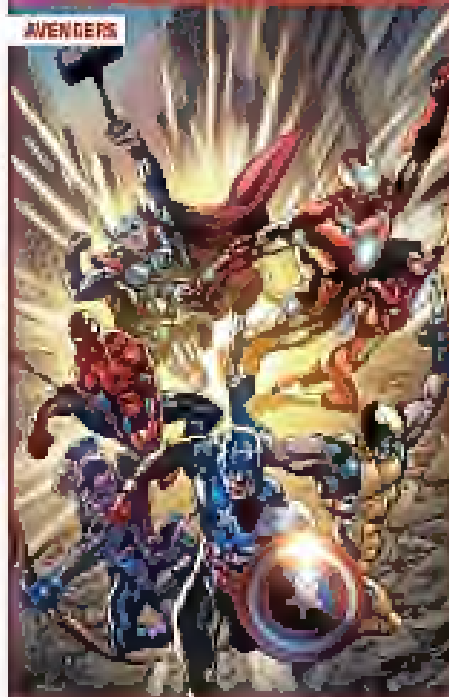
Complications continued in the romance between Rogue and Gambit: Thinking he could help stop Apocalypse from within, Gambit infiltrated Apocalypse's camp but was not prepared for the brainwashing that accompanied his transformation into the Horseman Death. Sometime later, Apocalypse's work was reversed by mad geneticist Mister Sinister, leaving Gambit in his debt. Simultaneously, when an alien creature threatened to consume all lives on Earth, Rogue used her power to absorb the psyche and powers of anyone she touched to end its threat. Unfortunately, Rogue absorbed the eight billion souls the alien had previously consumed into her own mind, leaving her on the brink of insanity.

Amid this, a mutant baby was born in Alaska, the first since the spell cast by the Scarlet Witch (Wanda Maximoff) that had left mutantkind nearly extinct. The birth provoked a war between forces that wanted the baby: the X-Men, who wanted to protect it; the Purifiers, who wanted to kill it; the Marauders (including the indebted Gambit), who wanted to obtain it for Mister Sinister. All parties remained unaware for a time that the time-traveling Cable (Nathan Summers) had taken the baby into his protection. Additionally, believing the child's death could prevent the dystopian future from which he had come from happening, X-Men Lucas Bishop began maniacally seeking the child, and the mutant-devouring Predator X started hunting the baby to consume it. While trying to safeguard the child, Cyclops sent a duplicate of the Multiple Man (Jasper Moreau) to Bishop's future to learn how mutantkind had survived into those years. Unexpectedly, Moreau's friend Layla Miller accompanied him to the future, became stranded there and was eventually incarcerated in a mutant concentration camp. Desperate to win the war, Cyclops sanctioned I-Force, a strike team that employed lethal methods, to search for the baby and execute the war's other factions. After Mister Sinister took possession of the baby, Rogue's desperate foster mother, Mystique (Raven Darkholme), pressed the mutant infant's skin against Rogue's, hoping this could cure Rogue of the eight billion souls trapped in her mind. Though Mystique was correct, Rogue was furious that Mystique risked the baby to save her, broadening the already-existing rift between them. Cable reclaimed the infant and teleported into the future. At this moment, Bishop desperately fired at the baby, instead unintentionally striking X-Men founder Charles Xavier in the head. The Apolytes, led by Exodus (Bernard du Paris), kidnapped Xavier's body through telepathic trickery and secretly healed his wounds. Reunited with Gambit at last, Rogue refused to reconnect with him, instead leaving on her own to recover from her traumas. Gambit first became Death in *X-Men #104* (2006) and was returned to normal in *X-Men #200* (2007). Rogue absorbed eight billion minds in *X-Men #100* (2007). The war over the first mutant baby began in *X-Men: Messiah Complex #1* (2007) and concluded in *X-Men #207* (2007). A depiction of Bishop's future can be found in *Wolverine: X-Men Security Enforcer #1-3* (1998). Xavier's survival was revealed in *X-Men: Legacy #205* (2008).

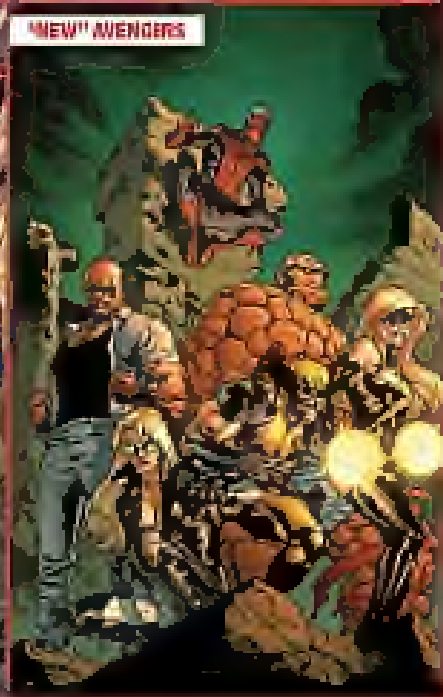
After the war, the X-Men disbanded for a time but eventually gathered in California's Bay Area and re-established the school and team's mission there. When corrupt businessman Norman Osborn made moves against mutantkind, including attacking them with his own secretly villainous Avengers and X-Men and supporting anti-mutant legislation, the true X-Men created an artificial island off the coast of California and established a sovereign mutant nation, Utopia was born. The X-Men moved to California in *Uncanny X-Men #500* (2008), and the establishment of Utopia began in *Dark Avengers/Uncanny X-Men: Utopia #1* (2008).



AVENGERS

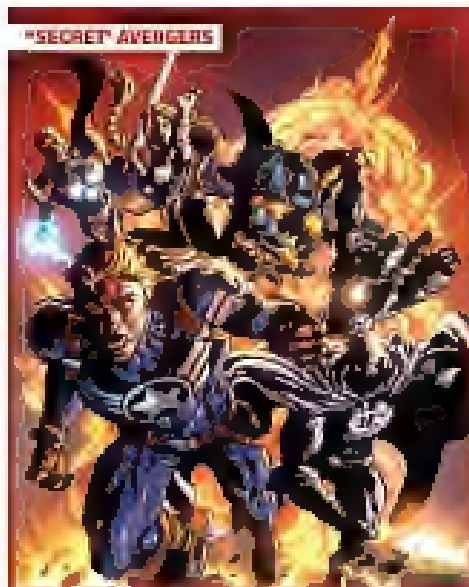


"NEW" AVENGERS

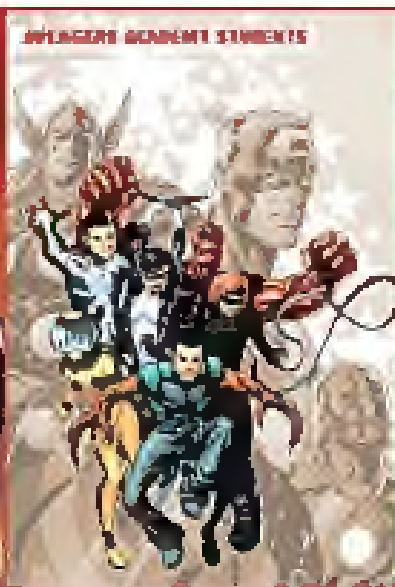


Following the ousting of Norman Osborn and the repeal of the Superhuman Registration Act, the U.S. government installed Steve Rogers as the director of U.S. superhero operations and charged him with reorganizing the Avengers. Rogers established multiple Avengers teams, each with a former S.H.I.E.L.D. agent as his liaison—an Avengers Tower-based team supervised by Maria Hill, an Avengers Mansion-based team overseen by Victoria Hand and the covert operations-centered "secret" Avengers directly overseen by Rogers and Sharon Carter. Rogers also established the Avengers Academy, a school headed by Henry Pym and founded to mentor a group of young superhumans previously approached by Norman Osborn as potential recruits for his dark plans. Rogers and Pym hoped Avengers training would guide the students away from a villainous path. This new heroic age for the Avengers began in *Avengers #1-6* (2010), *New Avengers #1-6* (2010) and *Secret Avengers #1-5* (2010). The founding of Avengers Academy took place in *Avengers Academy #1-2* (2010).

"SECRET" AVENGERS



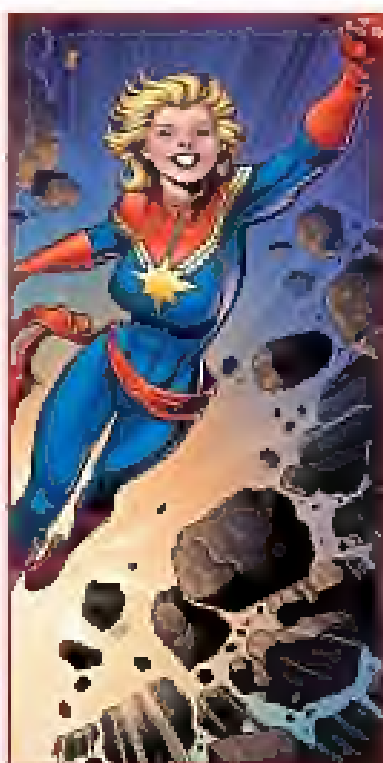
AVENGERS ACADEMY STUDENTS



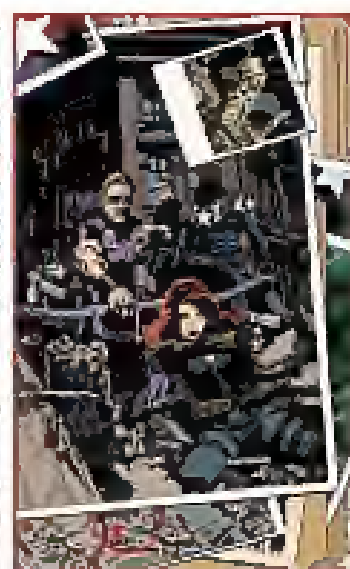
AVENGERS ACADEMY STAFF



Sometimes after a brief war between the Avengers and X-Men, Carol Danvers set aside her Ms. Marvel identity, adopted a new persona and claimed the Captain Marvel title. She was encouraged to do so by Captain America, inspired by her late friend Mar-Vell and buoyed by memories of her life as Earth's greatest hero in the House of M reality warp. Danvers' time as Captain Marvel in the House of M reality (Earth-58163) was shown in *House of M #1-6* (2005). She first appeared as Captain Marvel in the mainstream Marvel reality (Earth-616) in *Avenging Spider-Man #9-10* (2012) and *Captain Marvel #1* (2012).



The peacekeeping S.H.I.E.L.D. returned after being replaced by H.A.M.M.E.R. during Norman Osborn's dark reign. Serving in this reorganized agency was Marcus Johnson, a soldier who learned longtime S.H.I.E.L.D. Director Nick Fury was his father. After claiming his birth name of Nick Fury Jr., he and his great friend Phil Coulson became agents of good standing. Together they recruited Avengers Hawkeye (Clint Barton) and Black Widow (Natasha Romanoff) to lead a clandestine black-ops team that would have mission intelligence and objectives wiped from their memories after each classified operation. Other agents included seismic-powered Quake (Daisy Johnson) and spy Mockingbird (Bobbi Morse). Maria Hill spearheaded a later roster, which included Spider-Woman (Jessica Drew). The story of Nick Fury and Phil Coulson was told in *Battle Scars #1-6* (2012). The missions of the Secret Avengers began unfolding in *Secret Avengers #1* (2013) and *Secret Avengers #1* (2014).

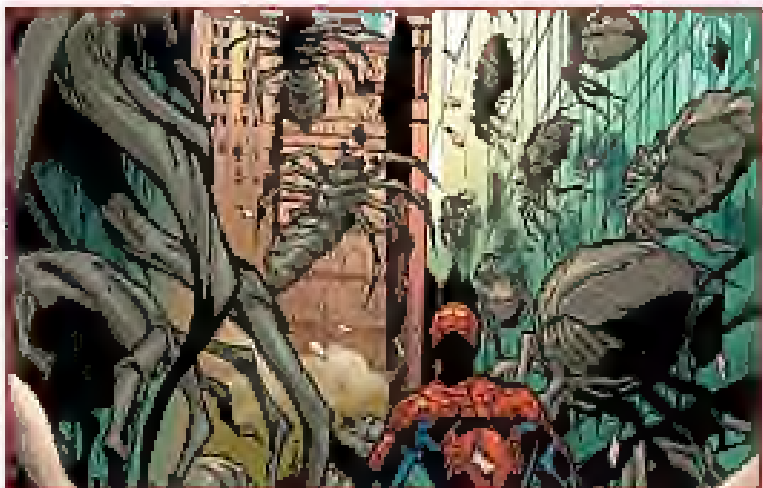


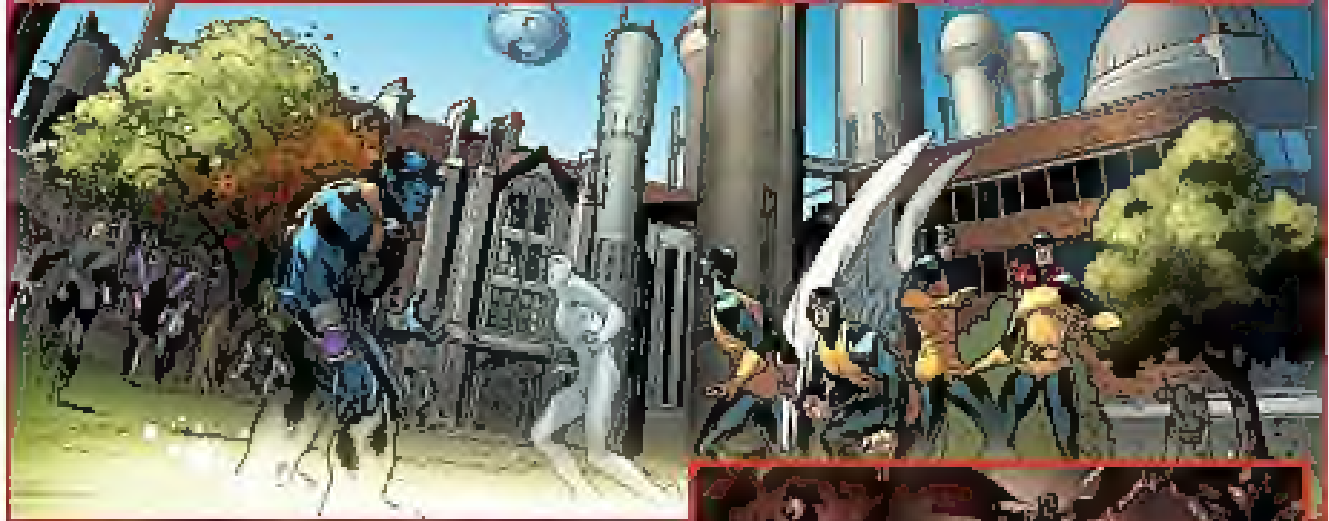


When a philosophical disagreement over whether their mutant worlds should fight is battle fundamentally divided the leadership of the X-Men, the schism exploded in a physical confrontation between Cyclops (Scott Summers) and Wolverine (Logan/James Howlett). This split the team, half staying with Cyclops in California, the other half returning to New York with Wolverine to re-establish a school where mutants could be taught the use of their powers without combat. The breaking of the X-Men took place in *X-Men: Schism #1-5* (2011) and *X-Men: Regenesis #1* (2011) and continued in *Wolverine and the X-Men #1* (2011) and *Uncanny X-Men #1* (2012). Not long after this, a massive worldwide war erupted between the Avengers and the X-Men when the Phoenix Force was detected as a course for Earth. Cyclops believed that the Phoenix Force could be used to reignite mutantkind after the Scarlet Witch (Wanda Maximoff) brought it to the brink of extinction, while the Avengers believed the Phoenix Force posed a vast threat to Earth and should be repelled. When Tony Stark (Iron Man) unintentionally caused the Phoenix Force to split, it took two X-Men as hosts. These Phoenix Five were Cyclops, Emma Frost, Namor (McKenzie), Colossus (Peter Rasputin) and Magik (Illyana Rasputin). The Phoenix Force eventually corrupted Cyclops, who took the Phoenix Force from the other four. During a battle with both the Avengers and the X-Men, the power-mad Cyclops killed Charles Xavier. The Scarlet Witch and the now-benighted, vastly powerful Hope Summers defeated Cyclops, then Hope dispersed the Phoenix Force, which reignited the mutant gene on Earth, undoing the Scarlet Witch's spell at long last. Cyclops was imprisoned for his actions. *Avengers vs. X-Men #1-12* (2012) and *AvX: Consequences #1-5* (2012-2013).

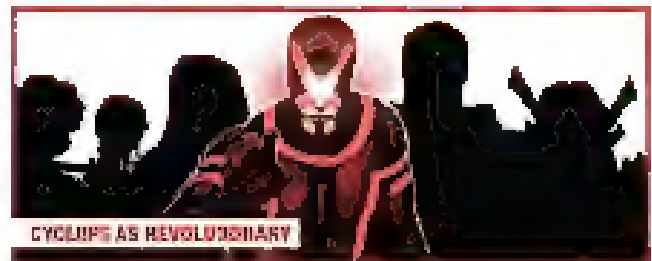


At the request of arthropod-powered conqueror the Queen (Ava Soria), the deranged Jackal (Miles Warren) infected Manhattan with mutated bedbugs whose bite caused the populace to develop spiderlike powers, transforming the city into a Spider-Island. As the infestation spread, these spider-powered individuals started causing chaos across the entire city, prompting Spider-Man (Peter Parker), the Avengers and numerous other heroes to intervene. The infected began to mutate into giant spiders, all under the Queen's mental control. The power she drew from her new subjects transformed her into a gigantic spider-creature. Parker's colleagues at Horizon Labs synthesized a cure, and while the assembled heroes battled the Queen, Spider-Man commandeered millions of tiny robots to administer the cure. Her powers weakened, the Queen was apparently slain in a subsequent battle. *Amazing Spider-Man #666-672* (2011-2012).





Scott Summers (Cyclops) had gone down a dark path by sanctioning a sub-squad of X-Men who were assassins (X-Force), killing Charles Xavier while possessed by the Phoenix Force and becoming a mutant revolutionary after breaking out of jail. Distraught, the Beast (Hank McCoy) traveled back in time to recruit younger versions of the original five X-Men (himself, Cyclops, Angel/Warren Worthington III, Iceman/Bobby Drake and Marvel Girl/Jean Grey) to follow him to the future. Beast hoped they could convince Cyclops his idea of a mutant revolution was wrong and that protecting mutantkind could be accomplished without lethal and bloody methods. Aghast at this future, the time-displaced X-Men stayed to work toward preventing their apparent destiny. X-Force formed in *Uncanny X-Men* #493 (2008), and their missions continued in *X-Force* #1 (2008). Cyclops killed Xavier in *Avengers* #17 (2012); his mutant revolutionary mission began in *Avengers* #5 (2013). Beast brought the original five X-Men forward in time in *All-New X-Men* #1-6 (2013).



Years into a potential future, the robot Ultron took over his creation, the synthezoid Vision, and used him as a time conduit to launch a full-scale surprise invasion of present-day Earth with hundreds of drone replicas. Within days, populations were decimated and subjugated. A giant domed city built on top of New York City served as Ultron's base. Most of Earth's few surviving heroes sheltered in a crashed S.H.I.E.L.D. Helicarrier, hidden by the ingenuity of Tony Stark (Iron Man). Desperate to defeat Ultron, Wolverine (Logan/James Howlett) and the Invisible Woman (Susan Richards) time-traveled to the past and ultimately convinced Avenger and Ultron creator Henry Pym to plant a hidden fail-safe virus in Ultron and forget the task. Pym recorded a video message for Richards to pass on to the future Pym at the moment that Ultron attacked, enabling the fail-safe to deactivate Ultron and stop the invasion, thus diverging the Ultron-controlled timeline to Earth-61112. *The Age of Ultron* is chronicled in *Age of Ultron* #1-10 (2013).